

# Catalpa, Southern *Catalpa bignoniodes*

**Southern catalpa**, also known as Catawba or Indian Bean, is a tough but beautiful tree native to the Southeast. It adds texture to large spaces, with large leaves and an irregular form. The only host tree to a caterpillar that is prized as bait by fishermen. Displays outstanding clusters of flowers in late spring to early summer.

**FORM:** A medium-sized tree with a short trunk, spreading branches and a broadly rounded, irregular crown. 25' to 40' tall and 20' to 30' wide.



**FLOWERS:** A 6 to 12" cluster of bell-shaped white flowers with purple streaks. Blooms in late spring/early summer starting around age 7.

**FRUITS:** Distinctive bean-like pods 8-14 inches long. May persist in winter.



**BARK:** Grayish brown, becoming furrowed with age.

**LEAVES:** Alternate and somewhat heart-shaped 4-8" long, with no significant fall color.



**PLANTING:** Best planted in full sun to partial shade, very adaptable to different types of soils. Fast-growing and somewhat tolerant of drought.